

Amendment dated

Reply to Office Action of November 27, 2009

REMARKS

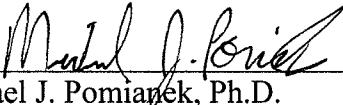
In view of the Examiner's indication in the Restriction Requirement of allowable subject matter, Applicants amend the claims to cancel, without prejudice or disclaimer, the non-elected claims and amend independent claims 1 and 26 to remove the language objected to in the Office Action. Claim 4, which depends from independent claim 1, has also been amended to delete the pyridine and pyridinium substituents since these substituents are not recited in the Markush groups of independent claim 1. New claim 27, dependent from independent claim 26, has been added to cover the pyridine substituents formerly recited in claim 4. Additionally, Applicants have added new independent claim 28 to cover the porphyrin compounds comprising pyridinium substituents deleted from claim 4. Applicants have also amended claim 7 to remove Markush language, reference to "possible complexation..." and the second and third preparation process alternatives previously recited. These alternative preparation processes have been made the subject of new dependent claims 30 and 32. New dependent claims 29, 31 and 33 adding the step of complex formation deleted from claim 7 have also been added. Dependent claim 8, similar to claim 7, has also been amended to remove the reference to optional complexation, which is now the subject of new dependent claim 34. Dependent claims 10, 19 and 23 have been amended to delete reference to non-elected claims, now cancelled. Finally, minor clarifying and non-narrowing amendments have been made to dependent claims 2, 20 and 24 to correct certain grammatical irregularities.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

If a fee is due that is not covered by any paper filed herewith, please charge our Deposit Account No. 23/2825 under Docket No. M1100.70002US00 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: March 1, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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